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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/781,650	02/20/2004	Achawan Atthaprasith	4260-0142P	3461

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BIRCH STEWART KOLASCH & BIRCH
PO BOX 747
FALLS CHURCH, VA 22040-0747

EXAMINER	
BOSWELL, CHRISTOPHER J	
ART UNIT	**PAPER NUMBER**
3676	

DATE MAILED: 12/19/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/781,650	ATTHAPRASITH, ACHAWAN	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Christopher Boswell	3676	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *23 September 2005*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *13-35* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) *27,29-31 and 35* is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *13-26,28 and 32-34* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on *20 February 2004* is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☒ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 13-23 and 32-34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Number 4,881,148 to Lambropoulos et al., in view of U.S. Patent Number 5,586,457 to Keener.

Lambropoulos et al. disclose a locking device for electrically locking an automobile, having an electrical system for controlling the operation of a motor (B, C, D) and a anti-theft system (column 2, lines 35-41) working together with the locking device comprising an electrical device (A) for encoding and transmitting coded signals for instructing a locking mechanism to engage or disengage a lock (column 9, lines 25-27), a locking electrical circuit (R) for comparing the coded signals received from an encoding device or circuit in order to determine whether they match a predetermined code, if the coded signals match then a processing is carried out to transmit an output signal to control the operation of the anti-theft system which is working together with the locking device and send a control signal to drive the motor to rotate and force the locking mechanism to operate and move the locking member to lock the automobile (column 10, lines 35-55; column 11, lines 62-66) as well as monitoring the rotation position of the motor to determine whether the position is in a locked or unlocked state

(column 9, lines 28-37), a resetting electrical device (812) for resetting and canceling the operation of the anti-theft system working together with the locking device (column 21, lines 42-44), a motor (B, C, D) for use as a power source to force the locking mechanism to operate and move the locking member to engage or disengage the lock, a locking mechanism (B, C, D) provided for moving the locking member to lock the automobile in order to disable their normal operations or for moving the locking member to unlock the automobile in order to enable their normal operations, a master lock (exterior automobile locks) provided in order to use a key to unlock in case any part of the electrical system or motor does not function, as in claim 13. However, Lambropoulos et al. does not disclose the use of the locking device is to be used to lock a brake, clutch, and/or an acceleration pedal of an automobile. Keener teaches of a remotely operated locking device (figure 5) for the accelerator pedal (14) in the same field of endeavor for the purpose of limiting the engine operations by obstructing the accelerator pedal. It would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the locking device of Keener in to the remote control system of Lambropoulos et al. by having the load driver actuate the obstructing member in to the obstructing position in order to limit engine operations by obstructing the accelerator pedal.

Lambropoulos et al. also disclose the electrical device used for encoding or transmitting coded signals for instructing the locking device has an encoding device provided for encoding and then transmitting coded signals to the locking electrical circuit (column 9, lines 25-27), as in claim 15, and where the locking electrical circuit will monitor the rotation position of the motor whether the position is in a locked or unlocked state by receiving a signal from a sensor when

such sensor senses the position of locking or unlocking of the locking mechanism (column 9, lines 28-37), as in claim 14.

Lambropoulos et al. further disclose the locking electrical circuit (45) having a decoder (100), control circuit (80), and driver circuit (120), including an integrated circuit (figure 1), as in claim 16, wherein the locking electrical circuit has a wired connection between the circuit to the motor encased to prevent damages or modifications of the connection of the circuit (figure 1), as in claim 32, as well as the locking electrical circuit receiving instruction signals from the encoding electrical device by transmitting signals to each other by using a wireless system (figure 1), as in claim 33, and where the locking electrical circuit is encased as a separate component, and then welded to the metal cylinder (column 3, lines 55-59), as in claim 34.

Lambropoulos et al. additionally disclose the resetting electrical device comprises a resetting encoding device and a resetting decoder (812), and an anti-theft system cancellation circuit (figure 5A) separately provided as another set for resetting and canceling the operation of the anti-theft system working together with the locking device, as in claim 17, where the resetting decoder receives resetting signals from the resetting encoding device by transmitting signals to each other through a signal wire (figure 13), as in claim 20, as well as the locking electrical circuit having a wired connection between the circuit to the motor encased to prevent damages or modifications of the connection of the circuit (figure 1), as in claim 18, as well as the locking electrical circuit receiving instruction signals from the encoding electrical device by transmitting signals to each other by using a wireless system (figure 1), as in claim 19, where the locking electrical circuit is encased as a separate component, and then welded to the metal cylinder (column 3, lines 55-59), as in claim 21, as well as the locking device being permanently

installed inside an automobile using a locking device attachment member (column 3, lines 55-59), such attachment installation is achieved by attaching the locking device to the automobile body, as in claim 22, wherein the locking mechanism, motor, and locking electrical circuit, are encased within the automobile (column 3, lines 55-59) to prevent damages to the motor, locking mechanism, and the electrical circuit, such encasing allows some parts of the locking member to protrude out of the encasing so as to unlock the vehicle, as in claim 23.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 24-26 and 28 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: The claims are allowable over the prior art of record because the teachings of the references taken as a whole do not teach or render obvious the combination set forth, including that of attaching the electronic lock to the steering wheel shaft, as well as having the specified details of the lock actuating means including a plurality of gears to move the locking member into a locking or unlocking position.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments, filed September 23, 2005, with respect to the rejection(s) of claim(s) 13-26, 28, 32-34 under 35 USC 102 have been fully considered and are persuasive. Therefore, the rejection has been withdrawn. However, upon further consideration, a new

ground(s) of rejection is made in view of different interpretation of the previously applied reference.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Christopher Boswell whose telephone number is (571) 272-7054. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:00 - 4:00 M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Brian Glessner can be reached on (571) 272-6843. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

CJB CB
December 6, 2005

BRIAN E. GLESSNER
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER